

Message Text

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ACTION SY-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6029
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MILAN 0864

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC ASUP IT
SUBJECT: LEXAN CAPABILITIES

REF: STATE 128730, 139031

1. AFTER HAVING DIGESTED DEPARTMENT'S SOBERING EXPLANATION OF LEXAN CAPABILITIES, I BELIEVE THAT OTHER USERS OF VEHICLES PRESENTLY EQUIPPED WITH IT AS VEHICLE WINDOW PANELS WOULD WISH TO BE SIMILARLY INFORMED.

2. WHILE MY COLLEAGUES AND I HERE HAVE LONG QUESTIONED THE ADEQUACY OF ITS MOUNTING NONE OF US WAS AWARE OF ITS PROTECTIVE LIMITATIONS. WE HAVE CHECKED THE VEHICLE UPON WHICH LEXAN PANELS ARE INSTALLED HERE. ITS SIDE AND REAR GLASS ARE TEMPERED AND NOT LAMINATED SAFETY GLASS. THEREFORE, PROTECTION IS PROVIDED FOR ONLY A SINGLE 9 MM. ROUND. THAT IS NEWS TO US.

3. KNOWING THAT, PANELS MOUNTED IN OUR VEHICLES IT CANNOT DEFEAT MULTIPLE ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION COMMONLY USED BY TERRORISTS HERE, WE WILL BE EVEN MORE PRUDENT IN POSSIBLY HOSTILE SITUATIONS. I WOULD SUPPOSE THAT USERS AT OTHER POSTS MIGHT WANT AND DESERVE TO BE REMINDED OF ITS LIMITATIONS FOR THE SAME REASON.FINA

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